

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05
ACDA-07 /062 W

-----241442Z 022267 /53

R 241325Z JAN 77

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4328
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0053

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS MOPS ET

SUBJECT: SECOND DIVISION COMMANDER

REF: ASMARA 0041

1. COL. ALEMAYEHU DESTA, CO OF SECOND DIVISION, HAS BEEN IN
ADDIS ABABA SINCE LAST WEEK AND IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN A SECOND
WEEK, RETURNING TO ASMARA ABOUT THE END OF JANUARY.

2. IN VIEW OF URGENT MILITARY AFFAIRS THAT NORMALLY WOULD REQUIRE
HIS PRESENCE AT SECOND DIVISION HDQTS, WE MUST ASSUME HIS PRES-
ENCE IN ADDIS IS IN CONNECTION WITH THE REPRESENTATIONS BEING
MADE BY THE 30-MEMBER MILITARY DELEGATION FROM SECOND
DIVISION UNITS, WHO REPORTEDLY ARE ASKING THE PMAC FOR GREATER
EMPHASIS ON SEEKING A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE ERITREAN CONFLICT.

3. COMMENT: TROOP DISCONTENT HAS PROBABLY INCREASED UNDER
ALEMAYEHU'S REGIME. IN CONTRAST, TO HIS PREDECESSOR, COL TELAHUN,
ALEMAYEHU IS MORE ENERGETIC, FORCEFUL, AND STRONG LEADER. SUCH
PRACTICES AND POLICIES STEMMING FROM HIS BASIC APPROACH TOWARD
SOLDIERING WOULD INEVITABLY LEAD TO GREATER CONTACT WITH THE
ENEMY AND CONSEQUENTLY GREATER DANGER TO THE INDIVIDUAL UNDER
HIS COMMAND. IN A SYSTEM WHERE TROOPS CAN AND DO VOTE ON COMMAND
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DECISIONS AND OFTEN TAKE MATTERS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS, FRICTION
HAS UNDOUBTEDLY RISEN AND DISCONTENT SPREAD OVER PROLONGING
CONFLICT. RECENT MILITARY REVERSALS IN THE FIELD WOULD SERVE TO
LEND STRENGTH TO THE TROOPS' PLEA FOR GREATER POLITICAL ACTION
TO REDUCE THE INSURGENCY.
SLUTZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMED FORCES, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, POPULAR RESENTMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ASMARA00053
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770025-0216
Format: TEL
From: ASMARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770126/aaaaawnr.tel
Line Count: 61
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Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3526412
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECOND DIVISION COMMANDER
TAGS: PINS, MOPS, ET, (DESTA, ALEMAYEHU)
To: STATE ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/38b3b7d2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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